

Independence Police Release Monthly Report;
City Council Meeting Summary

River City Briefs

September 12, 2025

The city of Independence, Oregon | 555 S Main St, Independence, OR 97351 | 503 838-1212

Para La Versión En Español

60-Second Council - September 9, 2025 Meeting



City Council Meeting Recap

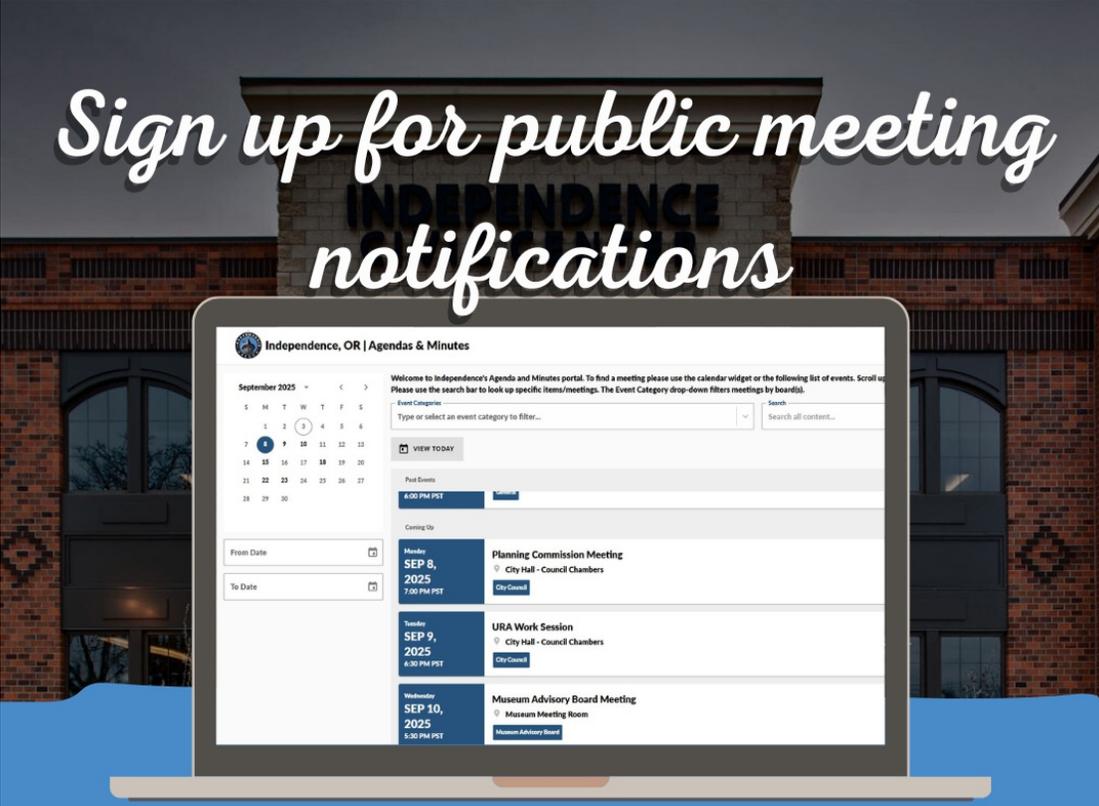
On Tuesday night, the Urban Renewal Agency (URA) Board, made up of Independence City Council members, held a work session to discuss the possible disbursal of URA properties.

- The Board reviewed two potential options and directed staff to bring back more information for further consideration
- A follow-up meeting is proposed for October 14, 2025
- Residents interested in URA meetings should sign up for URA notices specifically. Please note that signing up for City Council notices will not include URA updates, as the City and URA are separate agencies

For more information or to sign up for notices, visit the City of Independence website.

Watch Video Here

Stay Informed on Public Meetings



Sign up for public meeting notifications

Independence, OR | Agendas & Minutes

Welcome to Independence's Agendas and Minutes portal. To find a meeting please use the calendar widget or the following list of events. Scroll to find a meeting. Please use the search bar to look up specific items/meetings. The Event Category drop-down filters meetings by board(s).

Event Category: Search:

Type or select an event category to filter...

VIEW TODAY

Post Events

6:00 PM PST

Coming Up

Monday
SEP 8,
2025
7:00 PM PST

Tuesday
SEP 9,
2025
6:30 PM PST

Wednesday
SEP 10,
2025
5:30 PM PST

Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall - Council Chambers

URA Work Session
City Hall - Council Chambers

Museum Advisory Board Meeting
Museum Meeting Room

1845
INDEPENDENCE
Oregon's Story Begins Here

We just launched a new Public Meetings Portal that is easier to use and more user friendly. Subscribing for automatic email notifications takes only a few minutes:

Step 1: Visit the Public Meetings Portal
<https://independenceor.portal.civicclerk.com/>

Step 2: Click Sign In in the top right. New users select Sign up.

Step 3: After signing in, click Subscriptions.

Step 4: Choose the meeting types you want, such as City Council or Boards & Commissions.

Step 5: Verify your email if prompted.

That's it. Updates will come straight to your inbox, and you can change your preferences anytime under Subscriptions.

[Learn More Here](#)

Ghost Walk Event Returns this Spooky Season

PRE - GHOST WALK

APPARITION AVENUE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
4PM - 6PM

AN ADDITION TO THE GHOST WALK!
FIND LOCATIONS OFF MAIN STREET

**Both Are Free
Community
Events**

MEET AT THE TOP OF
RIVERVIEW PARK
TO COLLECT YOUR
TOUR MAPS
AND VISIT LOCAL
VENDORS

Independence Heritage Museum Presents

GHOST WALK

In Downtown
Independence, Oregon

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
7PM - 9PM

**DARE TO ENTER THE MUSEUM'S SPOOKY ODDITIES DISPLAY!
OPEN DURING APPARITION AVENUE & GHOST WALK.**

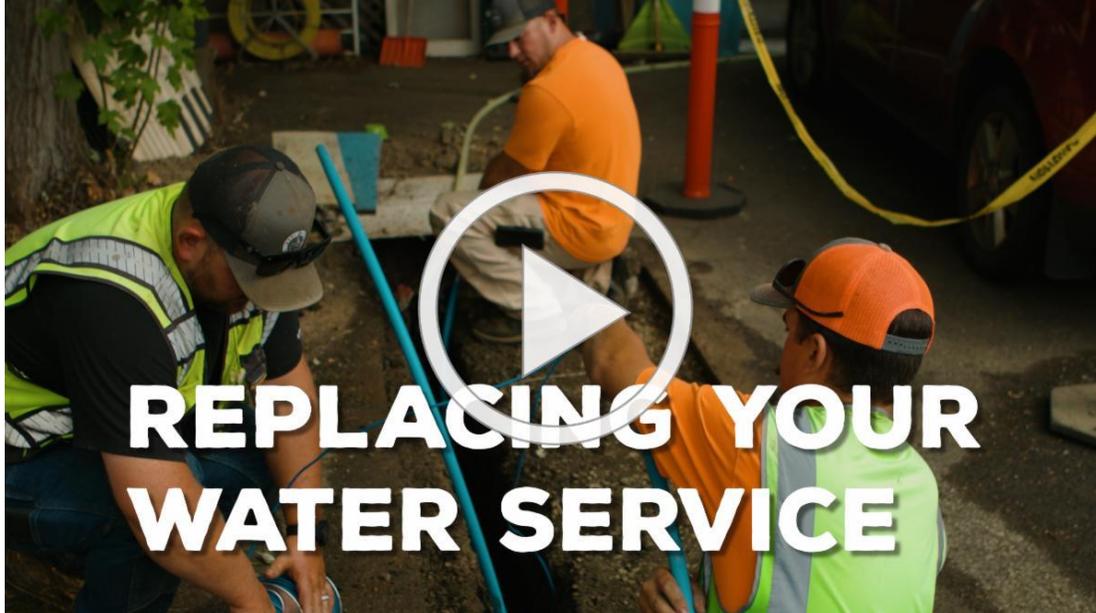
The Ghost Walk, a free community event hosted by the Heritage Museum, returns on Saturday, October 4, 2025!

Pick up your Ghost Walk maps at either the Umpqua Bank parking lot or Riverview Park by the fountain. Arrive early and enjoy a meal at one of our downtown restaurants!

Apparition Avenue kicks off from 4 PM to 6 PM, a pre-ghost walk event where guests can explore off-the-beaten-path locations just a few blocks from Main Street. Don't miss the vendors by the fountain while you're there!

[Learn More Here](#)

What Happens During Water Service Replacement



Water service replacement keeps our community's water system strong for today and reliable for the future. Old service lines can wear out over time, leading to leaks, lower water pressure, or even water quality concerns.

When crews replace a service line, the process includes planning and safety checks, carefully digging to reach the old pipe, installing a modern replacement, testing the flow, and restoring the street or yard. The result is clean, dependable water service you can count on.

[Watch Video Here](#)

Independence Police Release Monthly Report



Have you been curious about what our officers have been up to all month? The Independence Police Department is sharing a sample of the calls for service each month to inform and educate community members on the work we do.

In August 2025, officers engaged in 821 activities, including 25 Arrests (Adults and Juveniles), 11 check welfares, 16 domestic disturbances, 6 hit-and-run crashes, 11 emotional health calls, 57 Suspicious Activity / Person / Vehicle.

[Read Full Report Here](#)

Upcoming Public Hearings

The city of Independence encourages residents to stay informed and take part in upcoming public hearings that help guide local growth and development:

September 15 – Removal of Three Hazardous Trees in Pioneer Park – Historic Preservation Commission – 5:30 pm

October 6 – Consideration of Revised Standards for Mobile Vending Units – Planning Commission – 7:00 pm

October 6 – Consideration of Standards for Single Room Occupancies – Planning Commission – 7:00 pm

Meet Our New School Resource Officer: Anthony Preston



The Independence Police Department would like to introduce the newest member of the School Resource Officer Team, SRO Anthony Preston.

Officer Preston comes to the Independence Police Department with previous law enforcement and SRO experience. In addition to his work as a police officer, Officer Preston is involved in youth sports and community outreach. He is a co-founder of Anthony's Circle, a non-profit focused on helping youth in foster care reach their graduation goals.

Officer Preston is excited to join the team for the 25-26 school year and looks forward to working alongside the staff, students, and parents. Outside of work, Officer Preston enjoys football, spending time with his family, camping, and paddle-boarding.

He says he remembers a positive interaction with a police officer that played an integral role in his youth and decision to become a School Resource Officer. He hopes to have a similar positive impact on the youth in our community.

Please welcome Officer Preston and say hi as you see him. He is ready to kick off the school year and looks forward to being part of the team.

The Wall that Heals Arrives Next Week



From **September 18–21, 2025**, Independence will host The Wall That Heals, a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, at Independence Sports Park (10 Deann Drive). The exhibit is open 24 hours a day and free to the public.

Visitors can experience the 375-foot replica wall, the Mobile Education Center, guided tours, and special ceremonies, including the Welcome Home Ceremony, Agent Orange Ceremony, and Closing Ceremony.

For the full schedule, volunteer opportunities, and details, click the button below:

[Learn More Here](#)

POLK COUNTY FAMILIES FUND

A community-supported safety net grant for immigrant families in Polk County

Immigrant families in Polk County face limited access to emergency support. With increasing risks of ICE detainment and deportation, our community is coming together to create a family emergency fund rooted in solidarity and care.

This fund will remain in place until deportation efforts by this administration are fully diminished. At that time, any remaining funds will be donated to Safe Route Immigration's Citizenship Class Program, which is also currently at risk of elimination.

DONATE HERE



How the Funds Will Be Used:

Currently, our priority is to build the capacity of this fund to meet immediate legal needs.

Phase 1 - Legal Support: Each family in crisis requires an initial \$200 for an urgent legal response.

Our first goal is to support 30 families (\$6,000 total).

Phase 2 - Transportation & Communication: Once we meet the initial goal, we will focus on travel and communication expenses.

Phase 3 - Language Access: Funding will then expand to translation and interpretation services.

Phase 4 - Housing & Food Support: If grant is large enough we will work toward providing direct housing and food assistance.

PRESENTED BY:



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS:

Culturalharvestcollective@gmail.com

[Hello@Monmouthcultures.org](mailto>Hello@Monmouthcultures.org)

Read the Latest 2C1C

The Wall That Heals
comes to
Independence, Oregon
September 18-21, 2025

2021 Cities One Community
SEPTEMBER



HOP & HERITAGE
FESTIVAL
FAMILY FUN SINCE 2001

SAT, SEPT 20, 2025
Riverview Park
in Downtown Independence, Oregon
12 noon - 8pm

[Learn More Here](#)

This Newsletter Brought to you by

INDEPENDENCE
Oregon's Story Begins Here





City of Independence | 555 S Main St | Independence, OR 97351 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!